



## **Meeting of the Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture**

March 7, 2019 at 7:00 PM  
Arlington Center for the Arts

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Attending: Adria Arch, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Steve Poltorzycki, Janet Oberto, Ali Carter, Cristin Bagnall, Lidia Kenig-Scher, Andrea Nicolay, Aneleise Ruggles, Stewart Ikeda, Linda Shoemaker

Absent: Tom Davison, Beth Locke, Kimberly Harding,  
Guests: Jeff Thielman, Kate Loosian, Francis Callahan

### **Presentation from the Arlington High School Building Project Committee**

The committee received a presentation by 3 members of the Building Committee (Jeff Thielman, Kate Loosian, Francis Callahan) who provided the reasons for the project (capacity, accreditation warning, serving the needs of the students), presented the schematic design renderings, and updated on the timeline. An enthusiastic question and answer opportunity followed that focused on opportunities for use of space by the community that will support educational opportunities, community space use and fundraising space for arts and culture, as well the incorporation of gallery and exhibition space. Discussion included accessibility, off-hours use and open space campus use.

### **Treasurer's Update**

Steve Poltorzycki presented the Treasurer's Report noting that all is on track and noted changes to budget since the last meeting, with line item review and urged the committees to plan for end-of-year spending.

### **Action Committee Updates**

- *Marketing Committee* – Janet Oberto presented marketing updates that included the following topics: meeting with public art consultant Cecily Miller, promotional timelines for core committee activities needing marketing, content provision to website (news form in use), potential marketing expenditures, "outward facing" advertising, and website improvements. Janet invited all to attend the Arlington Chamber of Commerce awards night for the celebration to support the organization and to recognize the award to Arlington Global Service Station/Abe Salhi for public art. It was voted to spend \$325 to purchase a ½ table. ACC has offered generous recognition including the opportunity to show an edited video. Stewart Ikeda

presented schools activity that he has been forwarding in collaborating with Cristin Bagnall. Annelise Ruggles will be welcomed onto the marketing committee.

- *Programs & Festivals* – Cristin Bagnall announced *Garage Band* will take place at Arlington Service Station on June 22<sup>nd</sup> (rain date Saturday) and the expectation that we are activating the Cultural District in a new, engaging way, with this performance and the new street performance program that is evolving, with the draft schedule underway. She stressed that the program will incorporate many art forms and will have the feel that there is “always a festival going on.” Cristin is also working with Ali Carter to amend the vending license.
- *Fundraising* – Aneleise Ruggles presented that the committee wishes to further the “poster proposal” and discussed how this will work. Stephanie offered that we could use uncommitted funds for expenses needed to produce the posters for sale (estimated at \$600) and it was determined that Johnny Lapham will design the poster art.
- *Public Art* – Adria Arch provided the committee with a handout prepared from Cecily Miller that details potential next projects including: Fox Festival (March – June activities), Pathways (public art on Minuteman Bikeway in Cultural District), Bikeway Haiku (Kickstand installation, Bikeway re-installation), Katherine Sowaza’s Vita Project (1-day performance reinterpreting exercise trail in Menotomy Rocks), Bus Shelters (exploration of further collaboration), Fox Library Mural (current installation to be removed, selection process drafted to commission new mural.) Adria provided an update on the transformer box program including funding of \$1500 raised through meetings with Arlington merchants. The deadline for designers to submit is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Adria also provided a *Chairful* update; registration has started and the theme of Flora and Fauna/Sustainability has been selected. There was a discussion of town partners to invite.
- *Cultural District* – Andrea Nicolay reported that the managing partners met on February 22 and provided details of that meeting. Andrea has used the web submission form for news and shared that it works well and walked the committee through the proposal to develop a pocket-sized folding brochure featuring the ACD map and assets, which will be distributed widely to promote awareness and visibility of the ACD. Bids will be due back on March 22. A discussion of ArtsWeek followed including the news that Linda Shoemaker’s proposal has been accepted.
- *ArtLinks* – Linda Kenig-Scher presented an ArtLinks report that reviewed the history and mission of ArtLinks, the current organizational structure and celebrated membership growth and inclusion. The report included highlights: Critique Group monthly meetings in homes/studios, recruitment and exhibition at ACA Open Studios, multi-arts event at Town Day within ACAC booth, 25<sup>th</sup> Minuteman Bikeway Celebration activities project, ACAC website page with bi-monthly local artist feature content, field trips representative of member artist’s interests, Porchfest activities with exhibiting artists, collaboration with Programs and Festivals planning for the upcoming season. Future goals include: expand programs and memberships to Arlington residents through systematic and vigorous outreach by current members,

boost traffic to ACAC webpages and examine pathways to get to ArtLinks pages, considering marketing efforts to reach the highest possible numbers of artists.

**New Business**

There was no new business introduced.

The next meeting will be on April 4, 2019

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.